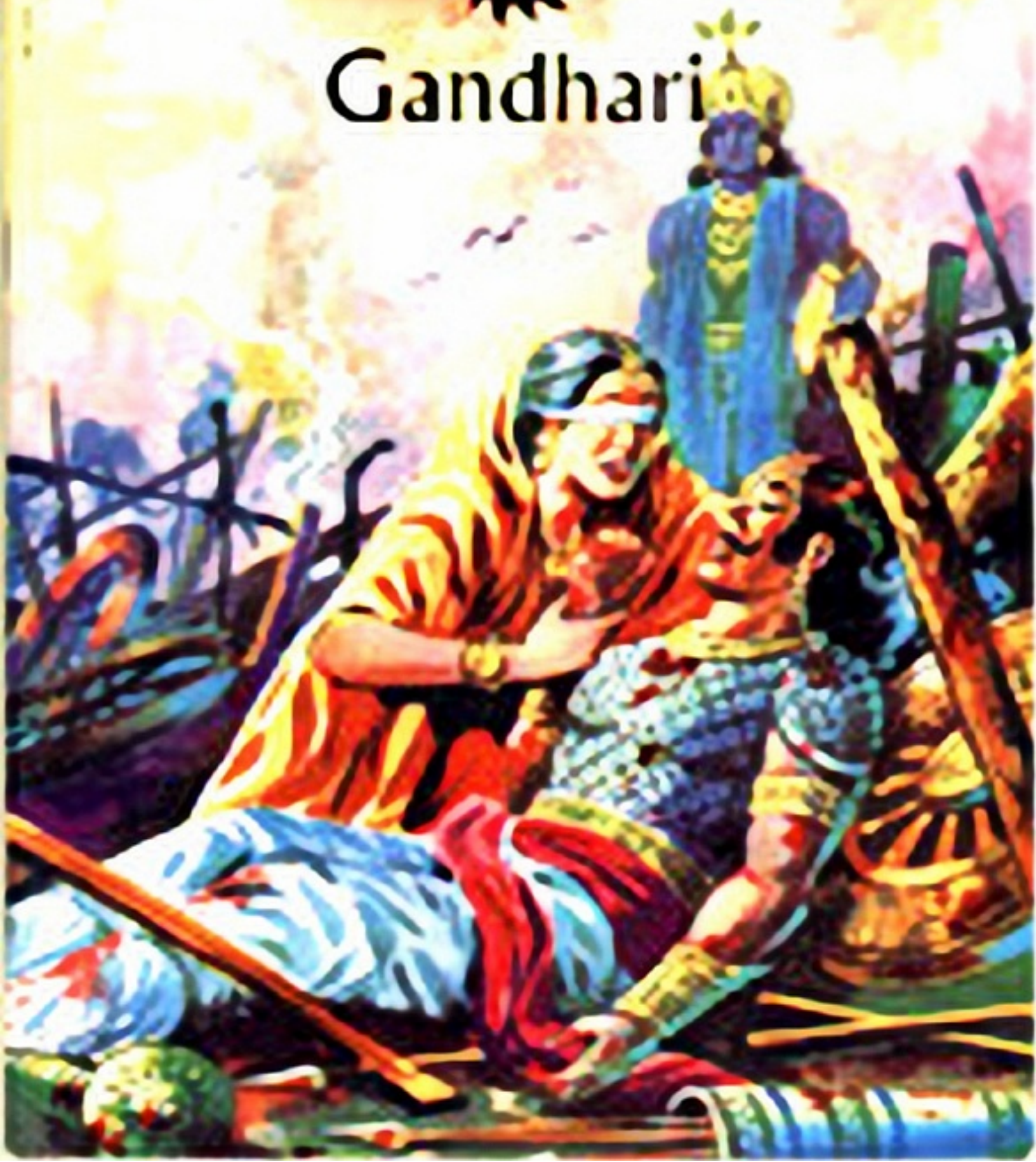


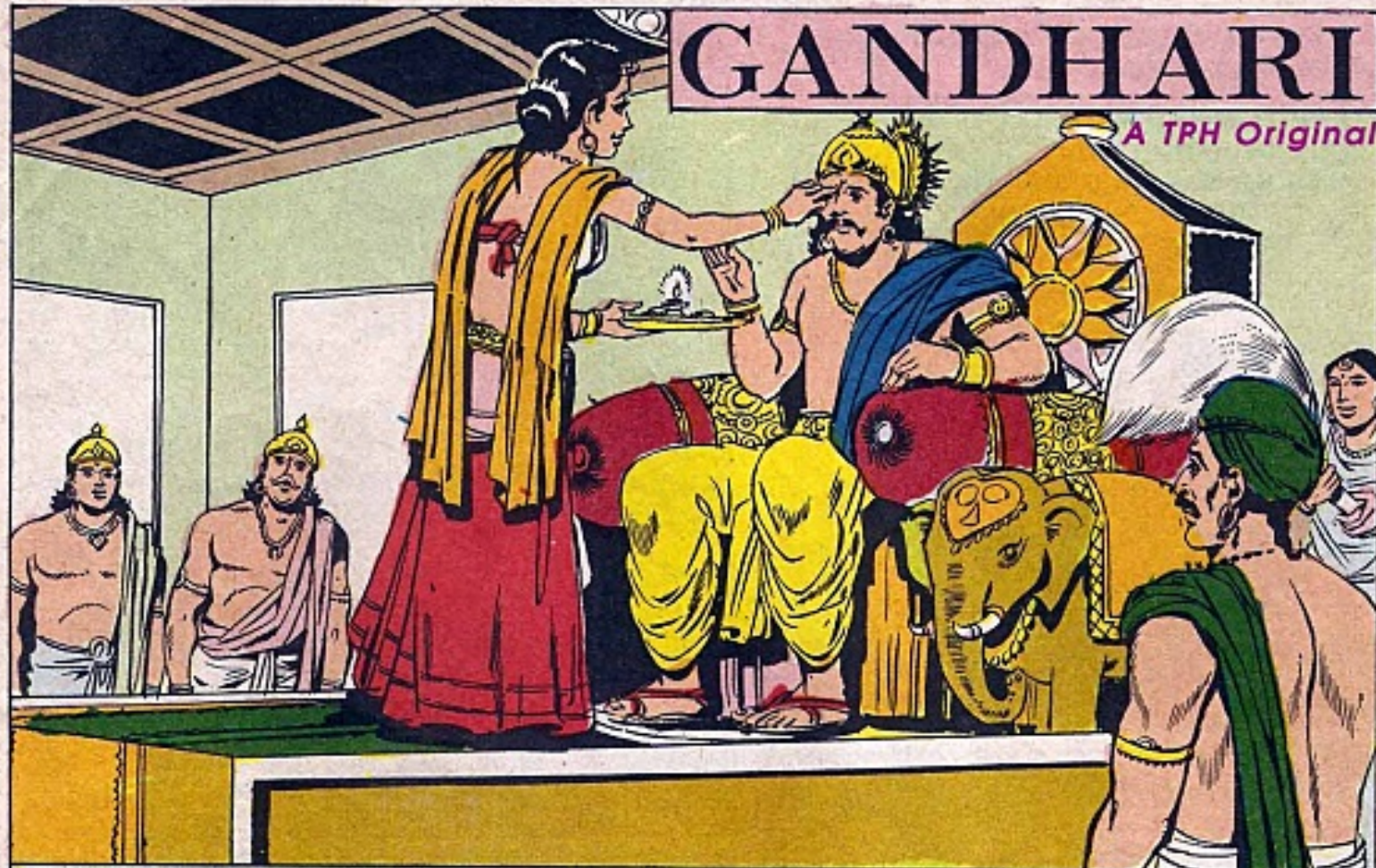


Gandhari



GANDHARI

A TPH Original



GANDHARI WAS THE DAUGHTER OF KING SUBALA OF GANDHARA.* SHE WAS CLEVER AND BEAUTIFUL, BUT HER BEST QUALITIES WERE HER LOVE OF GOD AND OF TRUTH.

KING SUBALA LOVED HIS DAUGHTER DEARLY.

MAY TRUTH AND FAITH GUIDE YOU THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE.



THOUGH GANDHARI WAS VERY YOUNG, SHE DID SUCH RIGOROUS FASTING AND PENANCE ...



* NOW CALLED AFGHANISTAN

... THAT ONE DAY, LORD SHIVA
APPEARED BEFORE HER.

I AM PLEASED WITH
YOUR DEVOTION. YOU
WILL HAVE A HUNDRED
SONS.



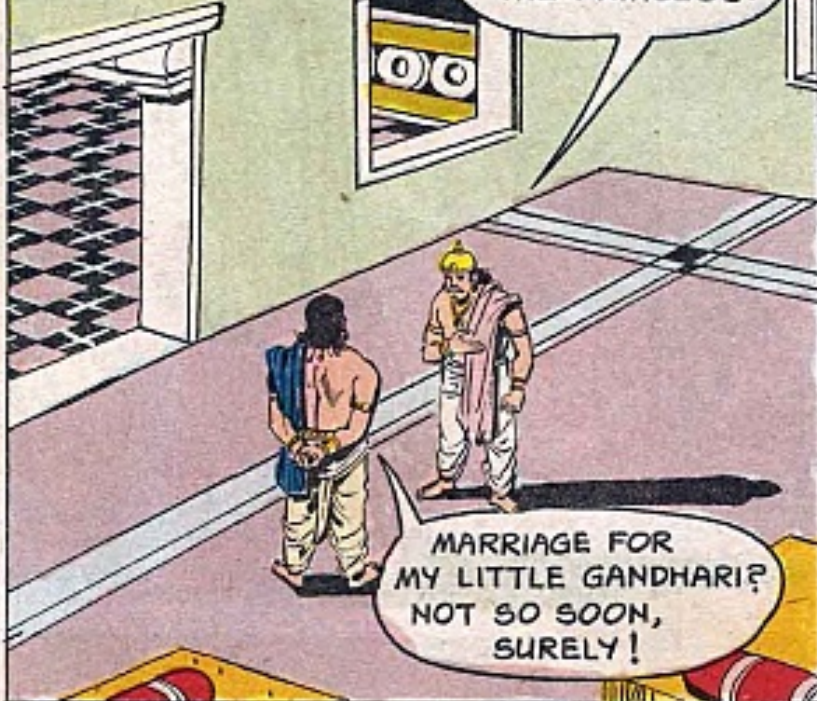
WELL, WHO
IS IT
FROM ?

FROM THE KURU,
BHEESHMA OF
HASTINAPURA. HE
WANTS THE HAND
OF OUR PRINCESS
FOR THE YOUNG
KING, DHRITARASHTRA.



SOME TIME LATER —

A PROPOSAL OF
MARRIAGE, O KING,
HAS COME FOR
THE PRINCESS.

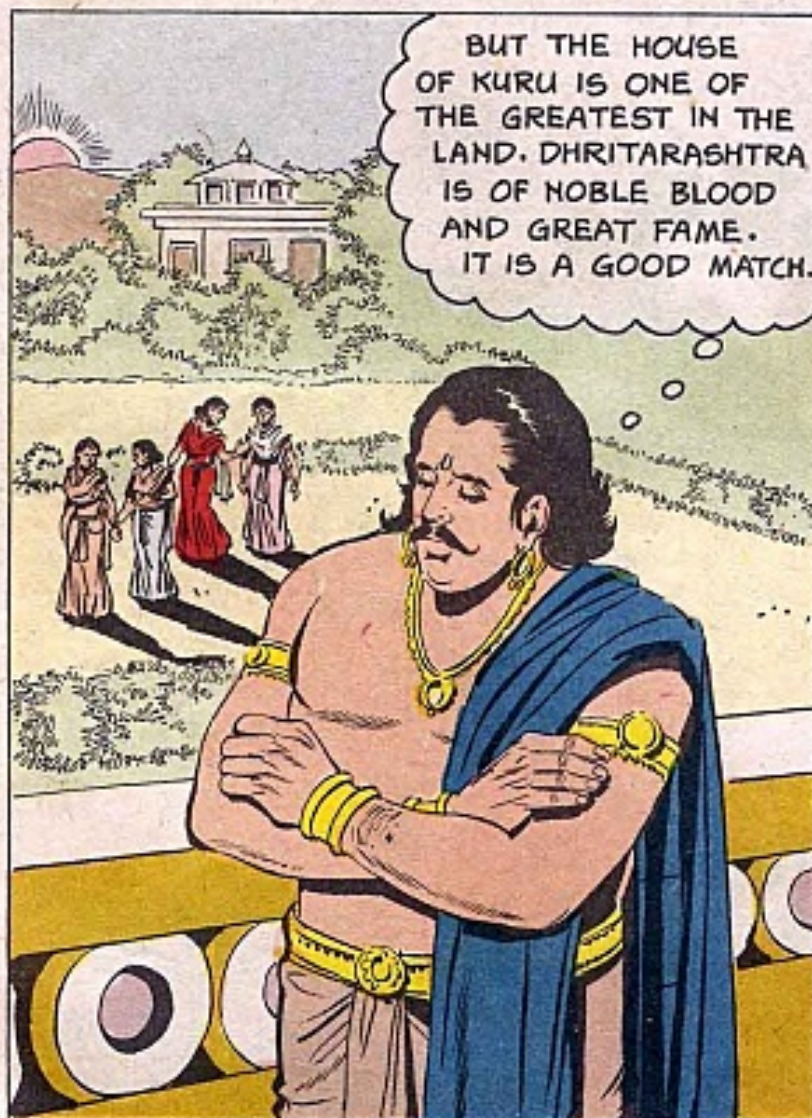


MARRIAGE FOR
MY LITTLE GANDHARI?
NOT SO SOON,
SURELY!

DHRITARASHTRA?
BUT ... IS HE NOT...
BLIND ?

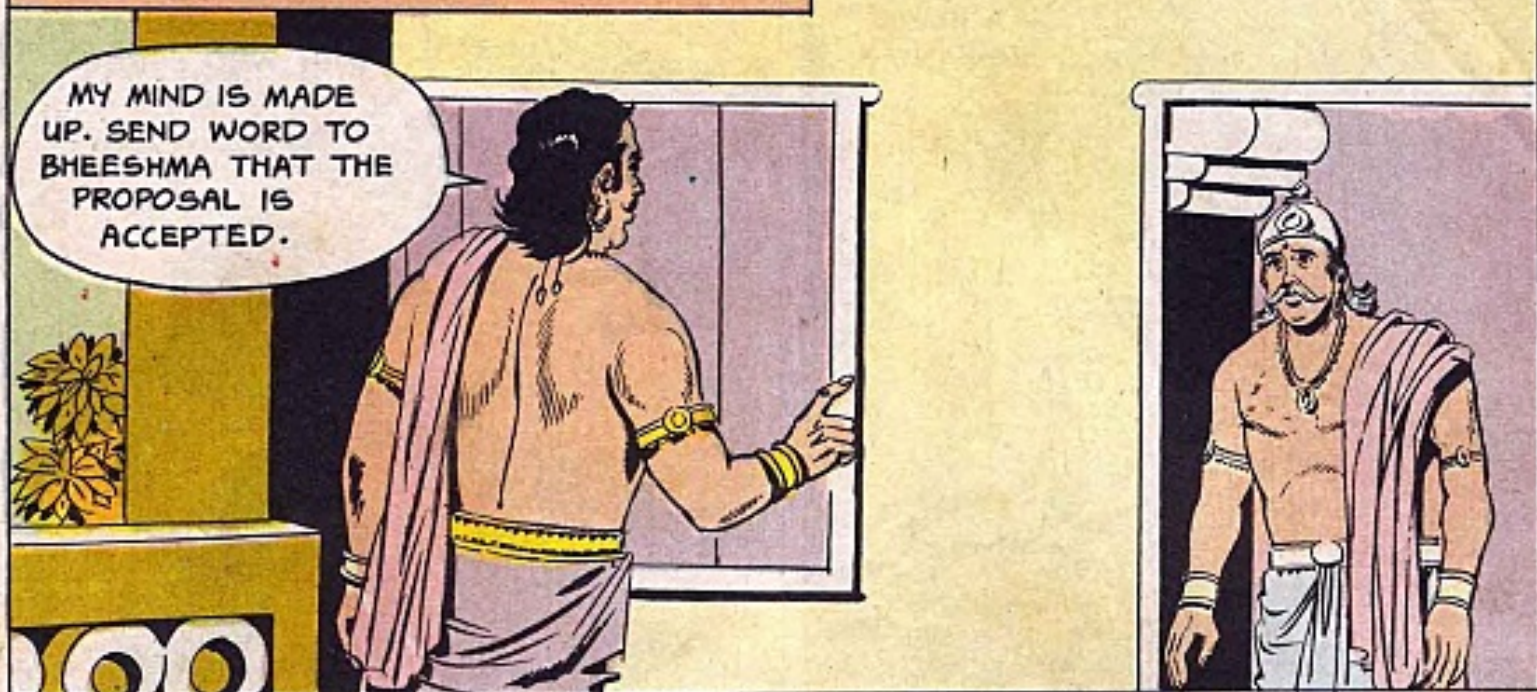


UNFORTUNATELY,
HE IS....



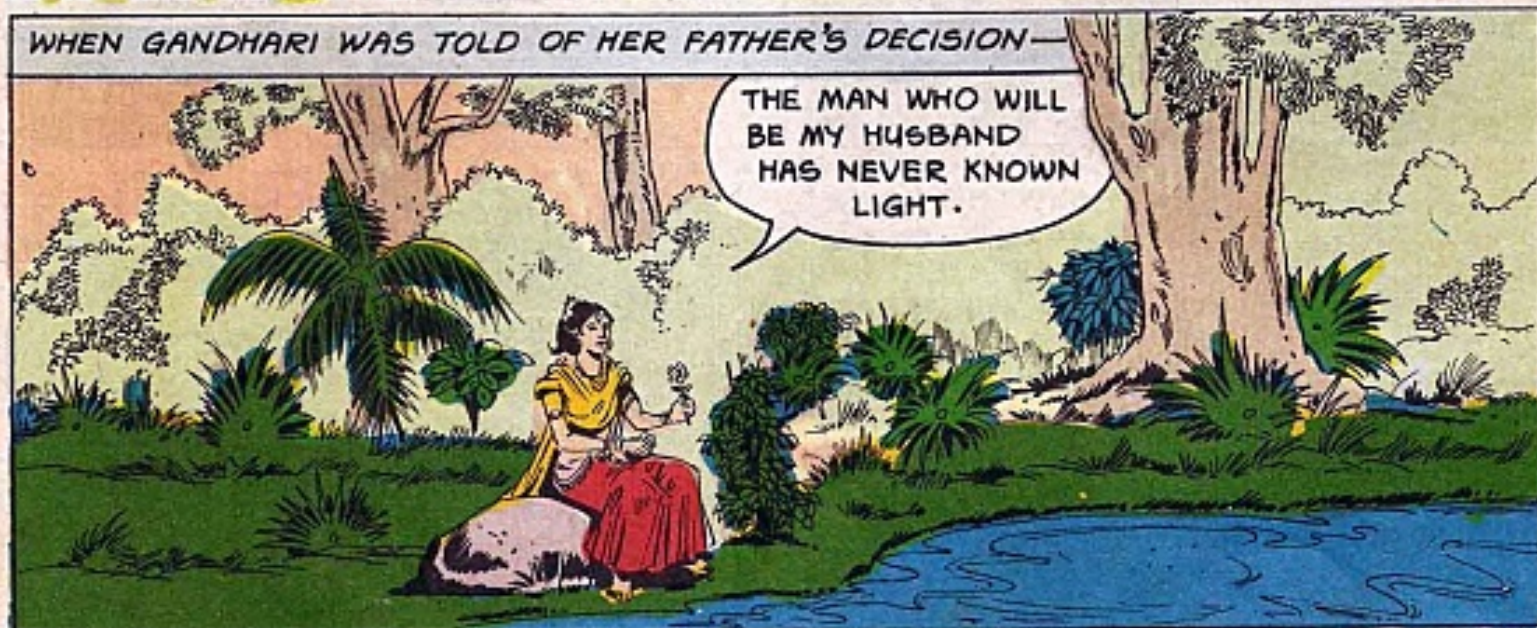
AFTER A GREAT DEAL OF HESITATION —

MY MIND IS MADE UP. SEND WORD TO BHEESHMA THAT THE PROPOSAL IS ACCEPTED.

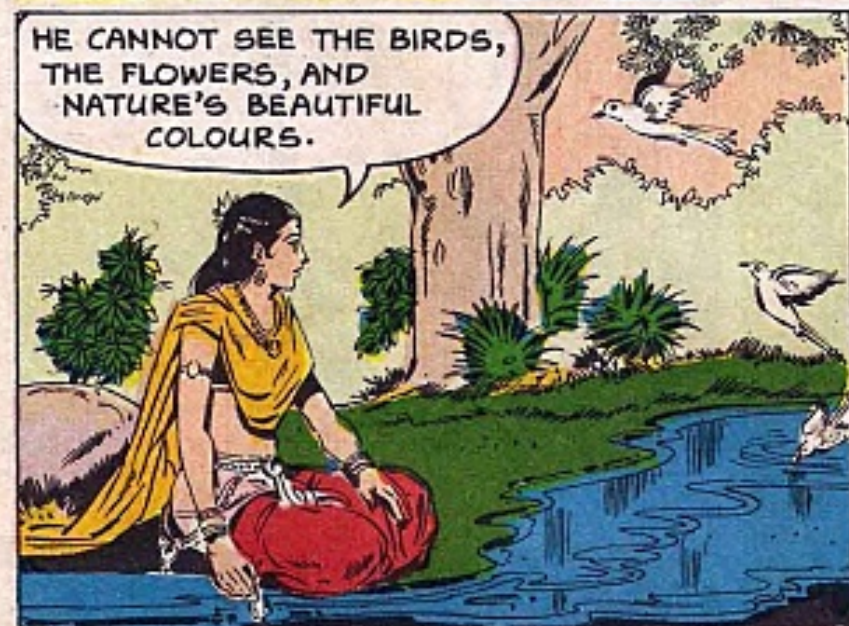


WHEN GANDHARI WAS TOLD OF HER FATHER'S DECISION —

THE MAN WHO WILL BE MY HUSBAND HAS NEVER KNOWN LIGHT.



HE CANNOT SEE THE BIRDS, THE FLOWERS, AND NATURE'S BEAUTIFUL COLOURS.



WHY THEN SHOULD I HAVE WHAT HE HAS BEEN DENIED?



TO PROVE HER LOVE AND RESPECT FOR HER FUTURE HUSBAND, GANDHARI TIED A SILK SCARF ROUND HER EYES.

NEED YOU DO THIS, MY CHILD, AND LIVE IN CONSTANT DARKNESS?

SINCE A WOMAN SHARES HER HUSBAND'S LOT IN LIFE AND IN DEATH, SHOULD SHE NOT SHARE HIS BLINDNESS TOO, FATHER?

SHE NEVER REMOVED THE SCARF FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE.

SOON IT WAS TIME FOR GANDHARI TO LEAVE FOR HER HUSBAND'S HOUSE.

YOU HAVE BEEN THE LIGHT OF YOUR FATHER'S HOUSE. BRING BRIGHTNESS TO YOUR NEW HOME, TOO.

GANDHARI'S BROTHER, SHAKUNI, ESCORTED HER.

BHEESHMA RECEIVED THEM ON THEIR ARRIVAL AT HASTINAPURA.

THE BRIDE... BLINDFOLDED? WHAT IS THIS?

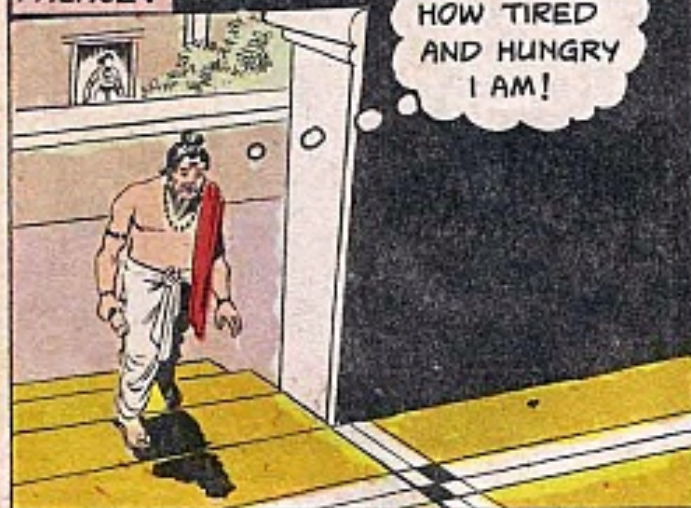
SHE HAS DONE THIS TO SHARE DHRTA-RASHTRA'S BLINDNESS.

I CAN SEE THAT GANDHARI IS NO ORDINARY WOMAN.

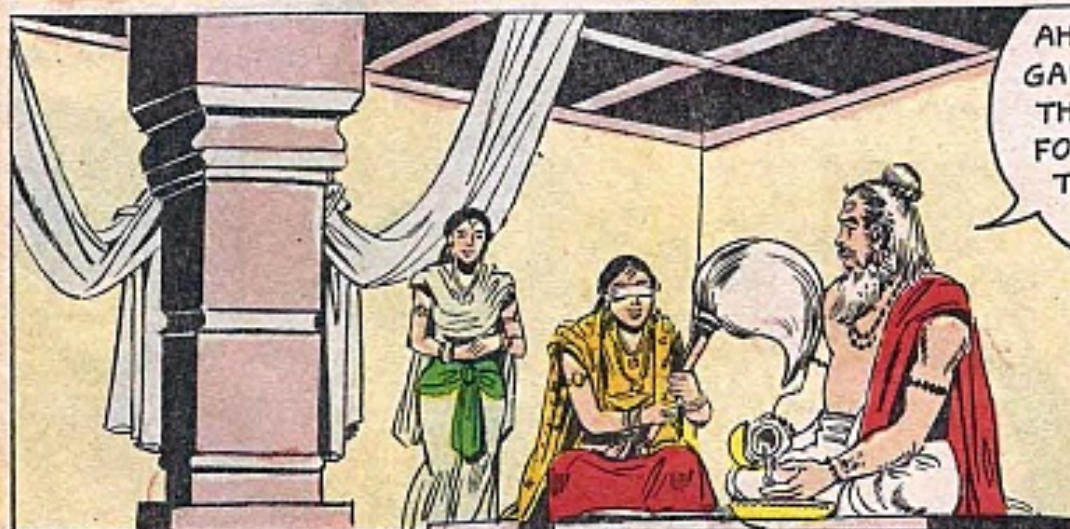
GANDHARI AND DHRTARASHTRA WERE MARRIED. BHEESHMA AND DHRTARASHTRA'S BROTHERS, PANDU AND VIDURA, WERE PRESENT AT THE WEDDING.



GANDHARI WAS THE IDEAL WIFE AND QUEEN. ONE DAY SAGE VYASA, WHO WAS A FREQUENT VISITOR, CAME TO THE PALACE.



IS THAT YOU, MAHARSHI? PLEASE SIT DOWN. I'LL HAVE SOME FOOD BROUGHT IN FOR YOU.



AH! THAT WAS DELICIOUS. GANDHARI, YOU ARE ALL THAT A WOMAN SHOULD BE. FOR YOUR CARE OF ME TODAY, I GRANT YOU A HUNDRED SONGS.

SOME TIME LATER —

YOU MUST EAT WELL AND
LOOK AFTER YOURSELF
PROPERLY, MY QUEEN. THE
SONS YOU ARE EXPECTING
WILL THEN BE STRONG
AND HEALTHY.

I HAVE
NEVER FELT
SO FIT IN
MY LIFE!

MY SONS SHALL
GROW UP TO BE
STRONG, GOOD
AND WISE.

MANY MONTHS PASSED. BUT —

WHAT HAS GONE
WRONG?

THE QUEEN SHOULD
HAVE GIVEN BIRTH
TO HER SONS LONG
AGO. I FEEL VERY
WORRIED.

ONE DAY —

MY QUEEN, I BRING
GOOD NEWS! YOUR SISTER-
IN-LAW, KUNTI, KING PANDU'S
WIFE, HAS GIVEN BIRTH TO
A BOY. HE IS TO BE
NAMED YUDHISHTHIRA.

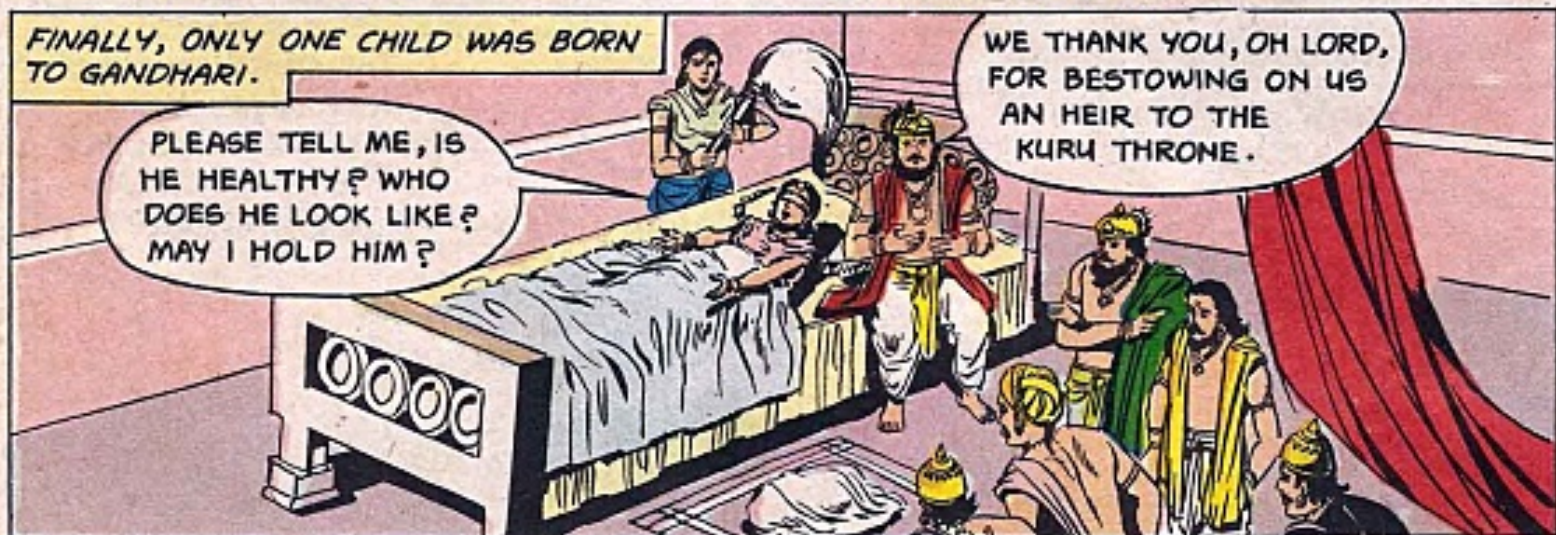


OH, LUCKY KUNTI! YOU ARE IN THE FOREST, BUT YOU ARE A HAPPY MOTHER! HERE IN THE PALACE, THOUGH I HAVE EVERY LUXURY, I LACK THE ONE THING THAT WOULD MAKE ME HAPPY — MOTHERHOOD.

FINALLY, ONLY ONE CHILD WAS BORN TO GANDHARI.

PLEASE TELL ME, IS HE HEALTHY? WHO DOES HE LOOK LIKE? MAY I HOLD HIM?

WE THANK YOU, OH LORD, FOR BESTOWING ON US AN HEIR TO THE KURU THRONE.



BUT IT WAS A STRANGE CHILD. IT WAS LIFELESS; AND IT HAD NEITHER SHAPE NOR FEATURES.

WHY IS NO ONE SPEAKING? IS SOMETHING WRONG?

BHEESHMA, MY UNCLE; VIDURA, MY BROTHER — TELL US, WHAT IS IT?

WHEN BHEESHMA TOLD THEM, GANDHARI WAS GRIEF-STRICKEN.

OH GOD, HOW CAN THIS BE? HAVE BOTH LORD SHIVA AND SAGE VYASA MADE ME HOLLOW PROMISES?



SAGE VYASA CAME AT ONCE WHEN HE HEARD THE NEWS —

CONSOLE YOURSELF, GANDHARI. YOU SHALL HAVE A HUNDRED SONS. THAT WHICH I HAVE GRANTED IN A BOON CANNOT COME TO NOTHING.

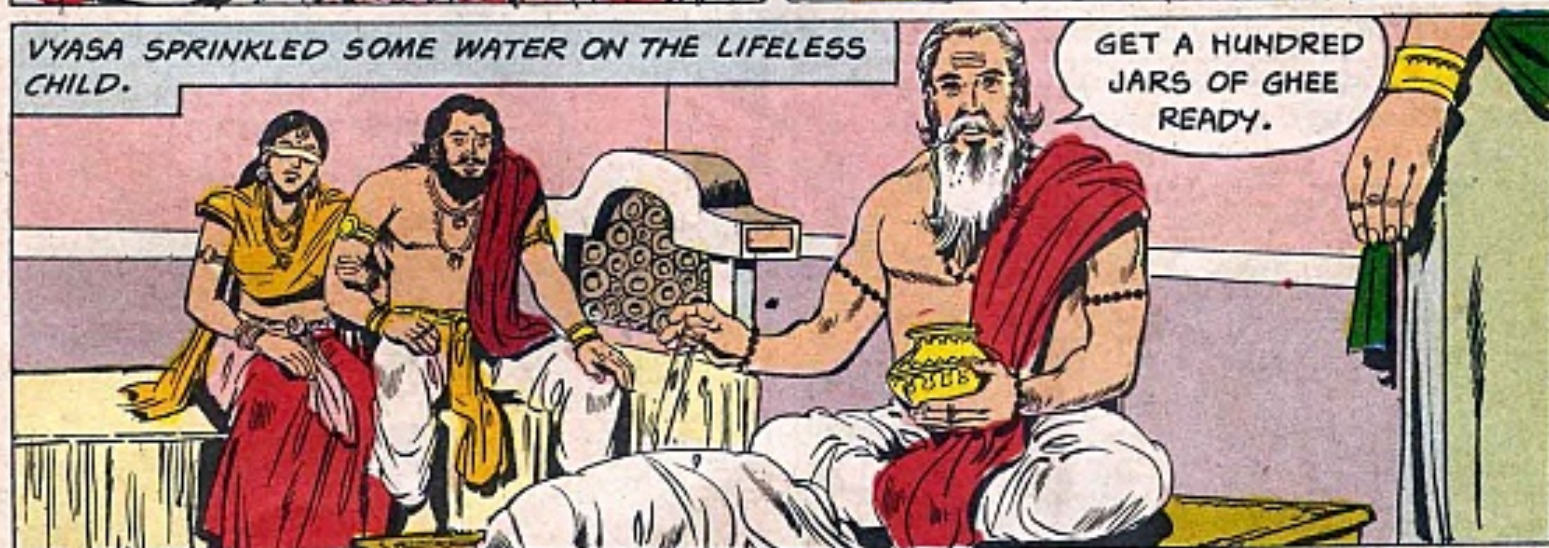


BRING SOME COOL WATER.



VYASA SPRINKLED SOME WATER ON THE LIFELESS CHILD.

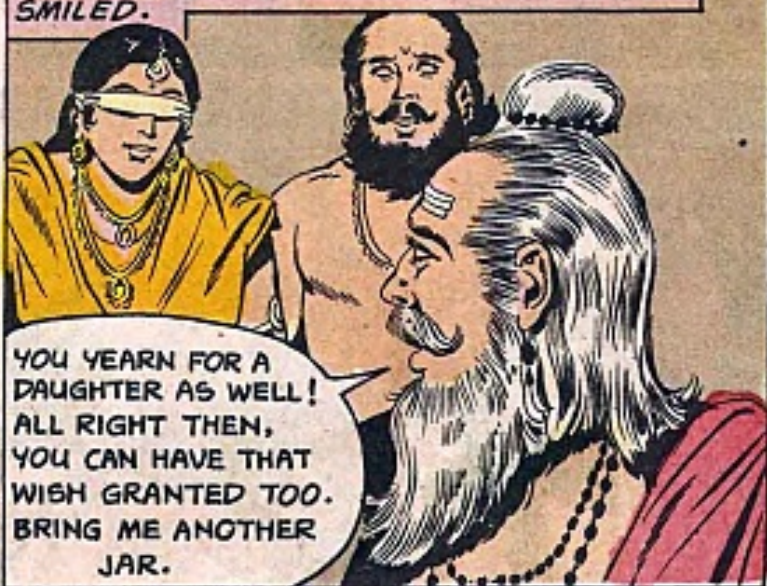
GET A HUNDRED JARS OF GHEE READY.



A HUNDRED SONS!
BUT HOW NICE IT WOULD
BE TO HAVE A
DAUGHTER TOO.



VYASA READ GANDHARI'S MIND AND SMILED.



YOU YEARN FOR A DAUGHTER AS WELL! ALL RIGHT THEN, YOU CAN HAVE THAT WISH GRANTED TOO. BRING ME ANOTHER JAR.

THE LIFELESS CHILD SPLIT INTO A HUNDRED AND ONE PARTS AND VYASA PUT ONE PART INTO EACH OF THE JARS OF GHEE.

OPEN THESE JARS AFTER TWO YEARS, AND YOU SHALL HAVE YOUR HEART'S DESIRE.



GANDHARI WAITED PATIENTLY FOR TWO YEARS.

TOMORROW I CAN OPEN THE JARS. HOW EXCITED I AM!



THE KURU ELDERS ASSEMBLED THE NEXT DAY, TO WATCH SAGE VYASA'S MIRACLE TAKE PLACE.

MY FIRST SON...



...THE ONE I SHALL LOVE THE MOST!

SO WERE BORN THE KAURAVA PRINCES AND THEIR SISTER.

HE SHALL BE CALLED DURYODHANA.



SUDDENLY —

EEEYEE....

THE CHILD, DURYODHANA, WAS BRAYING
LIKE AN ASS!OH! WHAT IS IT?
WHAT IS THAT
SOUND?

EVERYONE WAS STUNNED. AFTER A SHOCKED SILENCE, VIDURA SPOKE.

MY BROTHER, I AM SORRY
TO SAY THIS, BUT THE
CHILD'S CRY IS A VERY
BAD OMEN.

A BAD OMEN!

I... I CAN'T BELIEVE
IT! WHAT CAN WE
DO?

VIDURA WAS SILENT FOR A MOMENT, THEN —

WE WILL HAVE TO ABANDON THE CHILD OR....

NO, DON'T SAY THAT! NOT WHEN HE WAS BORN SO AUSPICIOUSLY THROUGH THE GRACE OF SAGE VYASA!



I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BROTHER, BUT LATER YOU WILL REPENT. THIS CHILD WILL DESTROY US ALL.

HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT OF SUCH A SMALL BABY?



AN INDIVIDUAL MAY HAVE TO BE CAST OFF FOR THE SAKE OF THE FAMILY; AND A FAMILY, FOR THE SAKE OF THE VILLAGE...



... A VILLAGE MAY BE ABANDONED FOR THE SAKE OF THE COUNTRY, AND THE EARTH ITSELF ABANDONED FOR THE SAKE OF THE SOUL.

I CANNOT DO IT, VIDURA. I SHALL NOT!



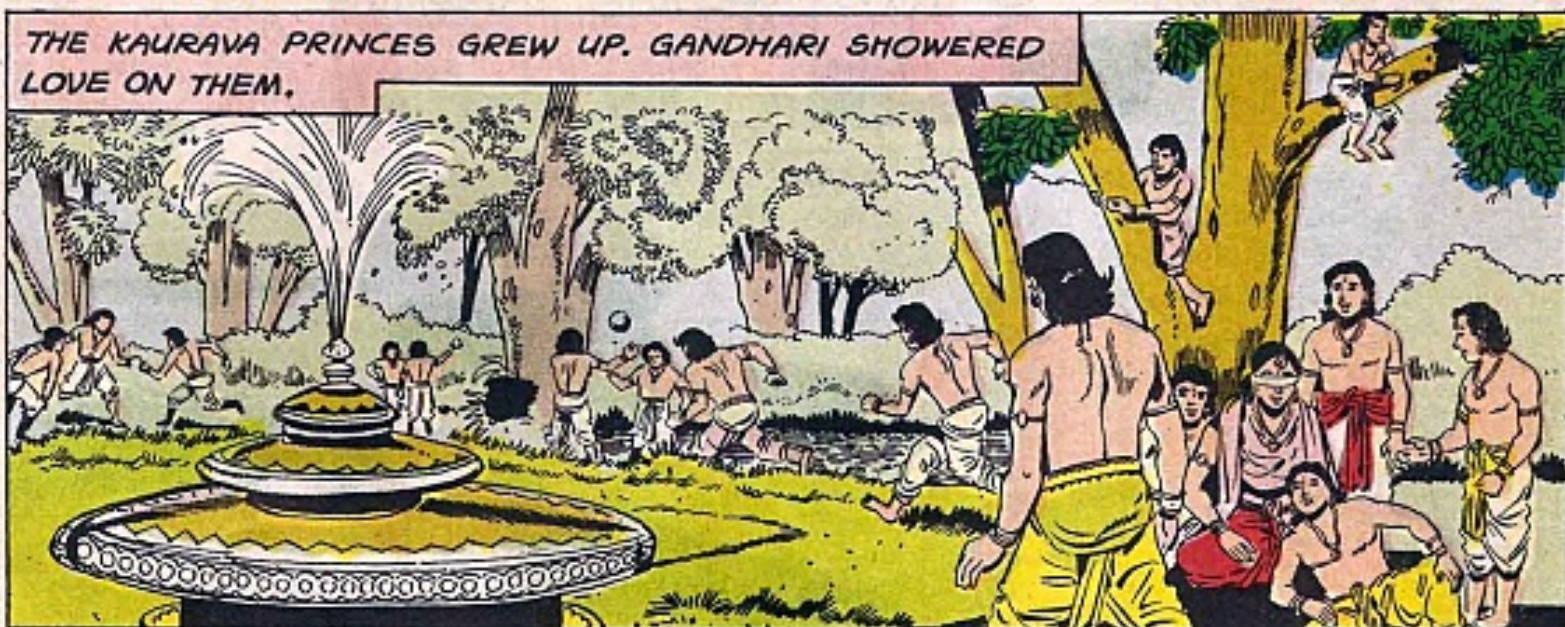
DO NOT WEEP, GANDHARI.
YOUR SON SHALL NOT
BE TAKEN FROM
YOU.



THE KING DECIDED TO KEEP HIS SON, IN
SPITE OF VIDURA'S WARNING. BUT THE
STRANGE BIRTH-CRY OF HER SON
HAUNTED GANDHARI.



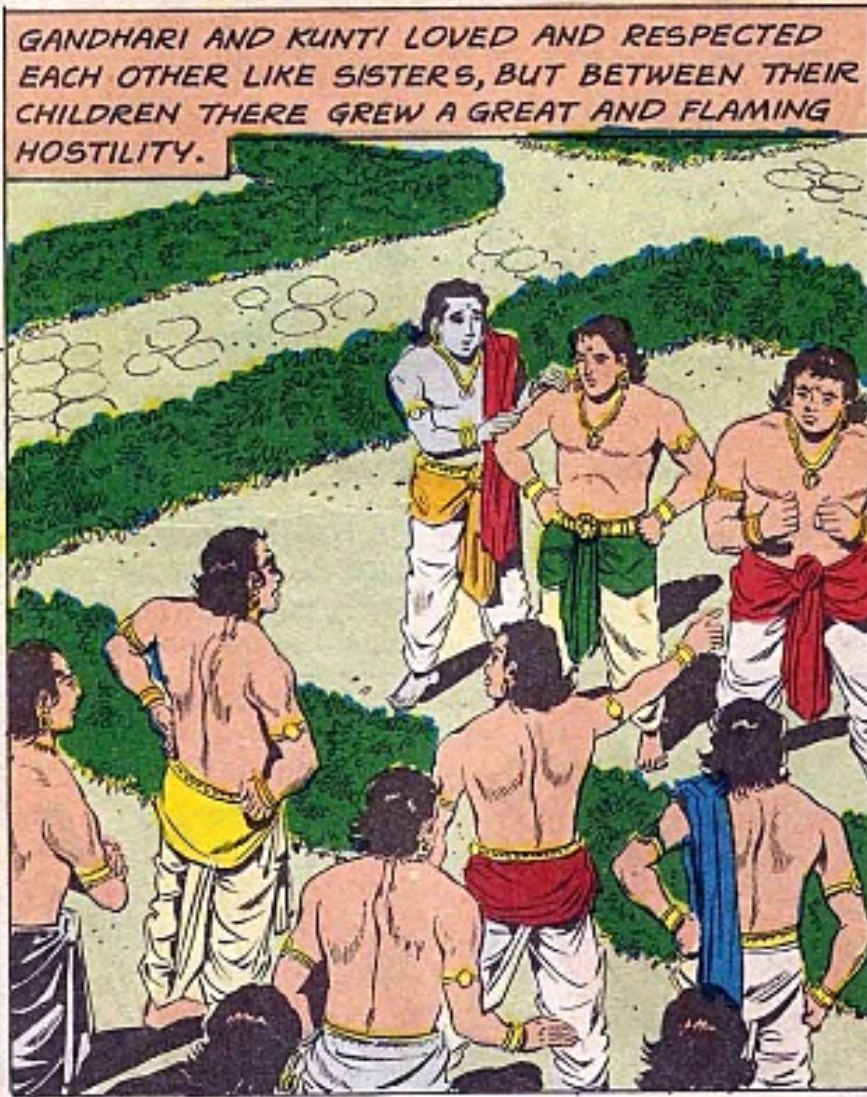
THE KAURAVA PRINCES GREW UP. GANDHARI SHOWERED
LOVE ON THEM.



SOME TIME LATER, DHRITARASHTRA'S BROTHER, PANDU, PASSED
AWAY IN THE FOREST. HIS WIDOW, KUNTI, RETURNED TO THE
PALACE WITH HER FIVE SONS, YUDHISHTHIRA, ARJUNA,
BHIMA, NAKULA AND SAHADEVA.

WELCOME, DEAR KUNTI. YOU
MUST TREAT THIS AS
YOUR OWN HOME.





GRADUALLY IT BECAME CLEAR THAT VIDURA'S FEARS CONCERNING DURYODHANA WERE WELL-FOUNDED. DURYODHANA TRIED TO POISON AND DROWN BHIMA WHO, HOWEVER, ESCAPED. BUT GANDHARI REFUSED TO BELIEVE IT —

LIES, ALL LIES! MY SON, DURYODHANA, WOULD NOT DO SUCH A THING TO BHIMA OR ANYONE ELSE!



AS THE COUSINS GREW UP, THEIR HATRED INCREASED WITH THE PASSING YEARS. THINGS CAME TO A HEAD WHEN YUDHISHTHIRA WAS CROWNED HEIR-APPARENT.



EVERYONE AGREED THAT YUDHISHTHIRA HAD A RIGHT TO THE TITLE, BECAUSE HIS FATHER, PANDU, HAD CONQUERED MOST OF THE KINGDOM. ONLY THE KAURAVA BROTHERS THOUGHT DIFFERENTLY.

HOW POWERFUL THEY HAVE GROWN, SHAKUNI, THOSE BEGGARS FROM THE FOREST!

SHOULDN'T YOU DO SOMETHING, DURYODHANA, BEFORE THEY BECOME MORE SO?



ENCOURAGED BY SHAKUNI, DURYODHANA TRIED TO BURN THE PANDAVAS IN A HOUSE OF LAC.



BUT THE PANDAVAS ESCAPED. LATER, THEY MARRIED DRAUPADI, THE PANCHALA PRINCESS. DHRTARASHTRA BESTOWED HALF HIS KINGDOM UPON YUDHISHTHIRA. THE PANDAVAS BUILT A NEW CAPITAL WHICH THEY CALLED INDRAPRASTHA.

GANDHARI TRIED TO DISMISS THE EVIL DEEDS OF HER SON. BUT HER HEART WAS IN TURMOIL.



BUT A DAY CAME WHEN THE TRUTH HAD TO BE FACED. IN A GAME OF DICE, DURYODHANA AND SHAKUNI STRIPPED THE PANDAVA BROTHERS OF THEIR WEALTH, THEIR KINGDOM, AND THEIR WIFE, DRAUPADI.



DURYODHANA TURNED TO HIS BROTHER, DUHSHASANA.



GANDHARI AND ALL THE OTHERS PRESENT SAT ROOTED TO THEIR SEATS IN SHOCKED DISBELIEF.

NO, NO, YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!

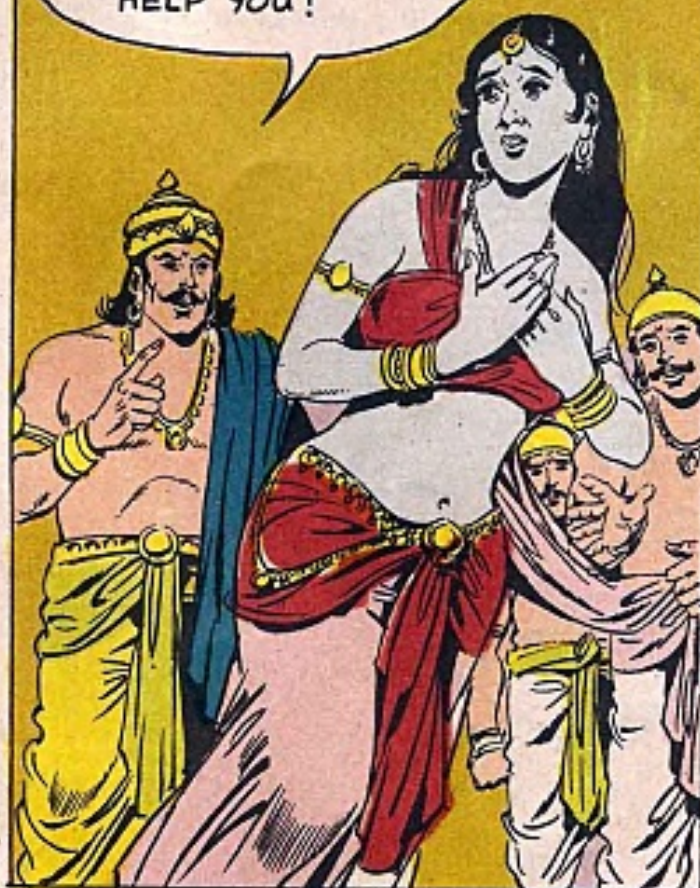
WE CAN DO ANYTHING WE LIKE!

MY OWN SON, DISHONOURING A CHASTE WIFE IN PUBLIC?



THE ELDERS COULD DO NOTHING FOR FEAR OF DURYODHANA.

HA, DRAUPADI! YOU HAVE FIVE HUSBANDS, YET NOT ONE CAN HELP YOU!



THE PANDAVAS TURNED SCARLET WITH HUMILIATION.

POOR YUDHISHTHIRA! YOU WERE LORD AND MASTER BEFORE THE GAME. NOW WHAT ARE YOU MASTER OF?



AT THAT MOMENT, JACKALS BEGAN TO HOWL AND BIRDS OF PREY CRIED OUT. EVERYONE TURNED PALE.



THE ELDERS CHANTED SACRED WORDS TO WARD OFF EVIL.



IT IS A TERRIBLE MOMENT WHEN A GOOD WOMAN IS FORCED TO ADMIT THAT HER SON IS WICKED.

DEAR LORD, HELP ME FACE THE BITTER TRUTH. IT IS TRUE: THERE ARE NONE SO BLIND AS THOSE WHO WON'T SEE.



I HAVE MADE EXCUSES FOR MY SON THROUGH THE BLINDNESS OF MY LOVE. I SEE IT ALL TOO CLEARLY NOW. MY SON IS EVIL THROUGH AND THROUGH.



SHE TURNED TO HER HUSBAND —

MY LORD, GIVE THE PANDAVAS BACK THEIR KINGDOM AND THEIR LIBERTY, I BEG YOU.

YOU KEEP OUT OF THIS, MOTHER!

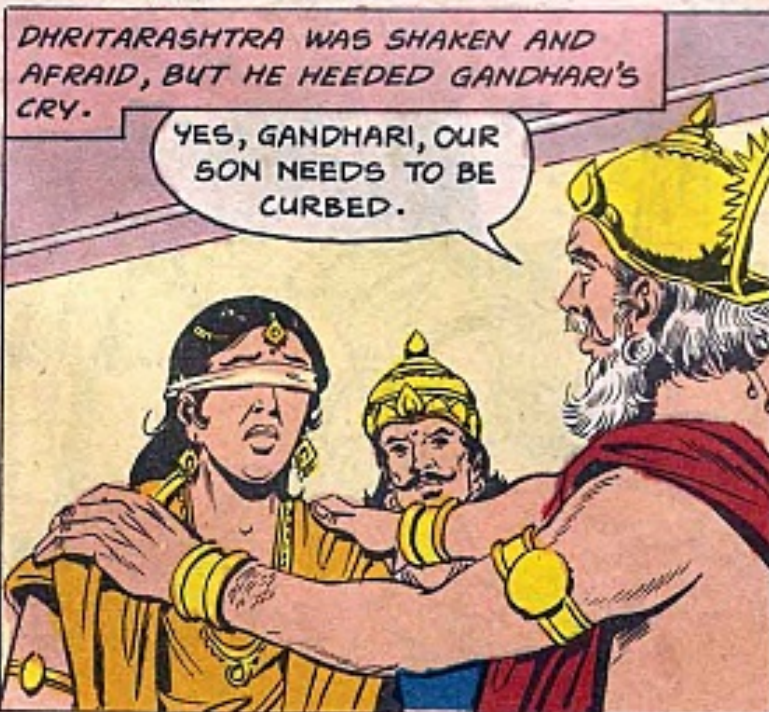


DON'T YOU HEAR THE OMENS? THE WISE VIDURA HAD WARNED US LONG AGO. OUR SON IS GROWING MORE VIOLENT EACH DAY. WE MUST CONTROL HIM BEFORE HE DESTROYS US ALL!



DHRITARASHTRA WAS SHAKEN AND AFRAID, BUT HE HEEDED GANDHARI'S CRY.

YES, GANDHARI, OUR SON NEEDS TO BE CURBED.



DRAUPADI, YOU HAVE BEEN WRONGED. ASK FOR A BOON.



MY LORD, RESTORE
THE KINGDOM TO
MY HUSBANDS.

IT SHALL BE DONE.
RETURN TO INDRA-
PRASTHA IN PEACE.

WHEN THE PANDAVAS LEFT WITH DRAUPADI,
DURYODHANA WAS FURIOUS.

FATHER, WHAT HAVE YOU
DONE ? TO GIVE THEIR
KINGDOM BACK TO THE
PANDAVAS IS TO LET
SNAKES CRAWL ON
OUR BACKS TO STING
US FATALLY ONE
DAY !

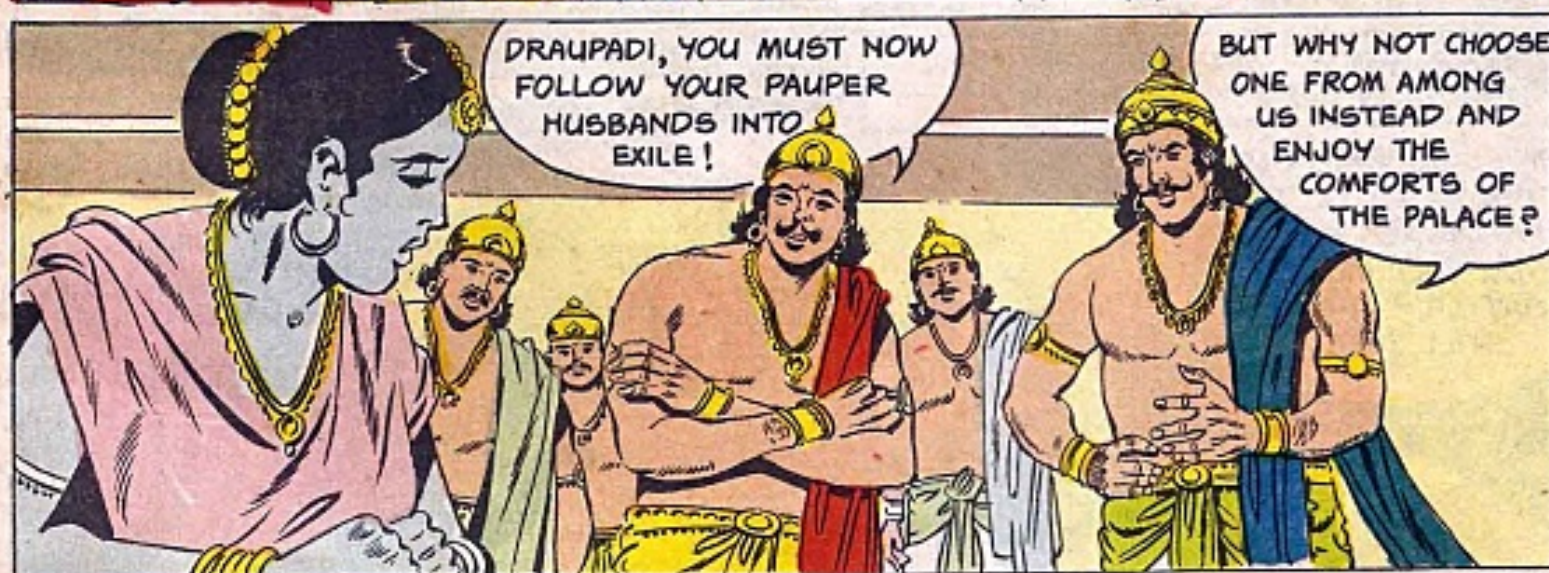
CALL THEM
BACK ! WE'LL
PLAY ANOTHER
GAME.

THE WEAK DHRTIRASHTRA GAVE IN AND THE
PANDAVAS WERE ASKED TO RETURN.

THE LOSERS WILL GO INTO
EXILE FOR THIRTEEN YEARS.
AGREED ?

AGREED.

AGAIN THE PANDAVAS LOST —



THE PANDAVAS COULD BEAR THEIR TAUNTS NO LONGER.

DURYODHANA, THE RIFT BETWEEN US IS TOO DEEP EVER TO BE CLOSED. WE SHALL BE BACK IN THIRTEEN YEARS AND THEN WE SHALL HAVE OUR REVENGE.



ARJUNA'S WORDS PUT THE FINAL SEAL ON THE DESTINY OF THE KAURAVAS.



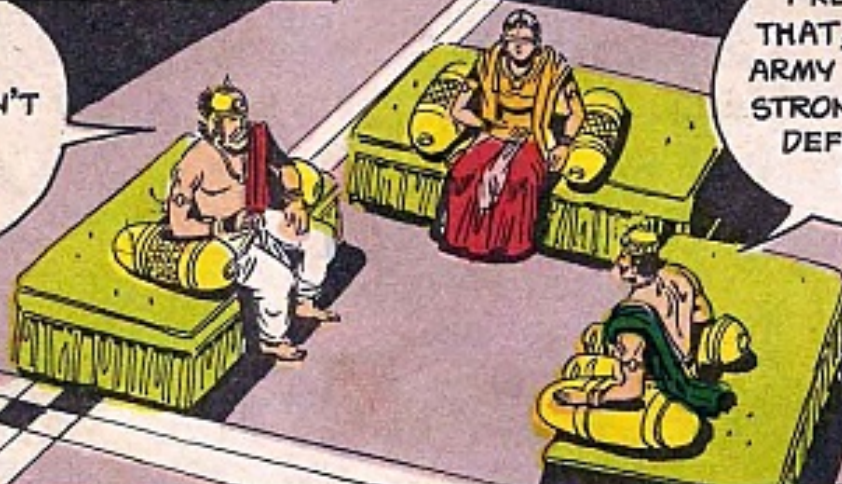
KUNTI REMAINED IN THE PALACE.

THE WAYS OF FATE ARE STRANGE, KUNTI. DO NOT GRIEVE. WE WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU.



DHRITARASHTRA AND GANDHARI TRIED TO REASON WITH DURYODHANA.

MY SON, YOU KNOW THE MIGHT OF THE PANDAVAS. WHY DON'T YOU CALL OFF THE BATTLE? THERE'S STILL TIME.



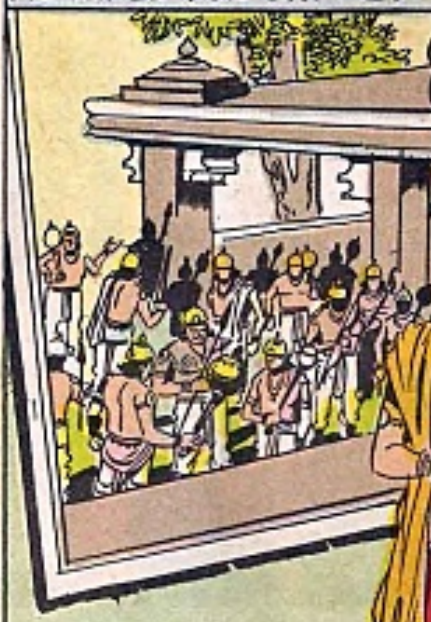
I REFUSE TO DO THAT, FATHER. OUR ARMY IS EQUALLY STRONG. WE WILL DEFEAT THE PANDAVAS.

IF KRISHNA IS ON THEIR SIDE, THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT WHERE VICTORY WILL LIE. BOW TO KRISHNA AND SEEK REFUGE IN HIM.

FATHER, EVEN IF THAT DIVINE BEING DESTROYS THE WORLD, I WILL NOT SEEK REFUGE IN HIM.



FINALLY THIRTEEN YEARS PASSED. WHEN IT BECAME CLEAR THAT DURYODHANA WOULD NOT RESTORE THEIR KINGDOM, THE PANDAVAS PREPARED FOR BATTLE.



THE PANDAVA ARMY IS SAID TO BE FORMIDABLE. LORD KRISHNA IS ON THEIR SIDE TOO. AND HE IS GOD INCARNATE. I AM AFRAID FOR YOU, MY SONS.



GANDHARI BURST OUT IN SUDDEN ANGER.

EVIL ONE, YOUR HEART IS FULL OF VIOLENCE. YOUR FATHER'S WORDS WILL BE REMEMBERED WHEN BHIMA KILLS YOU ONE DAY.



EVEN KRISHNA TRIED TO REASON WITH DURYODHANA.

DON'T LET FUTURE GENERATIONS CALL YOU THE DESTROYER OF YOUR RACE. GIVE THE NOBLE PANDAVAS THEIR KINGDOM.



KRISHNA, YOU HAVE ALWAYS PRAISED THE PANDAVAS. BUT HAVE YOU EVER SPOKEN ON MY BEHALF? NEVER!

IS NOT HALF A KINGDOM LARGE ENOUGH TO LIVE HAPPILY IN? NO GOOD CAN COME OF WAR, MY SON.

MOTHER, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THESE THINGS. SO PLEASE DON'T INTERFERE.



AS THE DAY OF THE BATTLE DREW NEARER—

MOTHER,
GIVE ME YOUR
BLESSING.

MY SON, YOU HAVE MY
BLESSING. MAY VICTORY
LIE ON THE SIDE OF
THE RIGHTEOUS.

GANDHARI BLESSED HER SON
WITH THESE WORDS EVERY DAY.

DURYODHANA KNEW THAT GANDHARI'S WORDS ALWAYS CAME TRUE.

WILL YOU
NOT SAY THAT
OUR SIDE WILL
WIN?

I WILL SAY ONLY
THIS: MAY VICTORY
LIE ON THE SIDE
OF THE RIGHTEOUS.

ONE FATEFUL DAY THE BATTLE BEGAN AT KURUKSHETRA. IT RAGED FOR EIGHTEEN
TERRIBLE DAYS. THOUSANDS WERE KILLED. THE KAURAVAS MET WITH THE HEAVIEST
LOSSES.



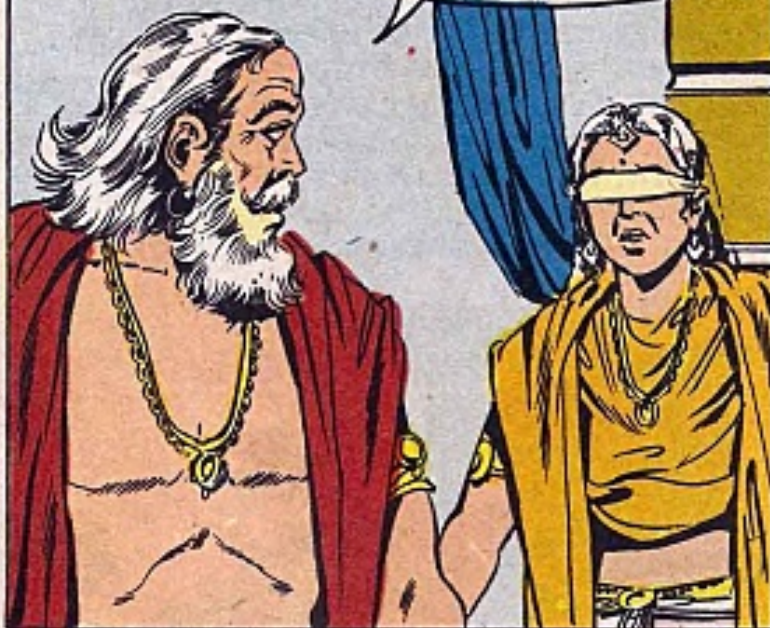
NUMB WITH GRIEF, DHRTARASHTRA WENT TO GANDHARI.

MY QUEEN, OF ALL OUR ARMY, ONLY THREE HAVE SURVIVED.

WHO... WHO ARE THEY?

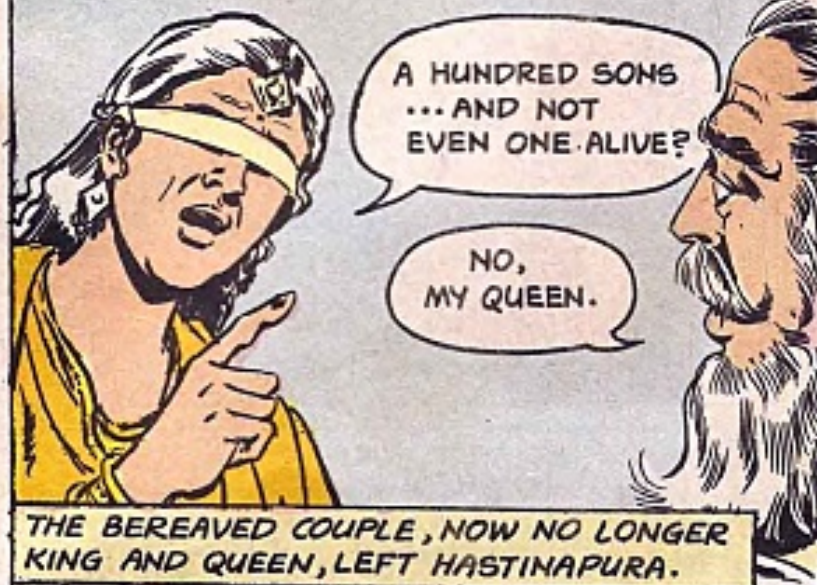


OUR SONS ARE NOT AMONG THE SURVIVORS, MY QUEEN.



A HUNDRED SONS ... AND NOT EVEN ONE ALIVE?

NO, MY QUEEN.



THE BEREAVED COUPLE, NOW NO LONGER KING AND QUEEN, LEFT HASTINAPURA.

A BLAZING ANGER WAS RAGING IN GANDHARI. SAGE VYASA SENSED THE GREATNESS OF HER SORROW AND CAME TO SEE HER.

GANDHARI, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. BUT DO NOT GIVE IN TO UNCONTROLLABLE ANGER...



...FORGIVE THE PANDAVAS. THEY DID WHAT THEY HAD TO. IF A CURSE RISES TO YOUR LIPS, HOLD IT BACK. ANGER BENEFITS NO ONE.



THE SAGE'S WISE WORDS CALMED GANDHARI A LITTLE.

KRISHNA CAME WITH THE PANDAVAS AND DRAUPADI TO MEET GANDHARI AND DHRTA-RASHTRA. DEJECTED EVEN IN THEIR VICTORY, AND AFRAID TO FACE GANDHARI, THEY STOOD HUMBLY BEFORE HER.

THE VICTORS! I CAN SEE, IN SPITE OF MY BLINDNESS, THE HAPPINESS ON YOUR FACES. THE STREETS ARE FULL OF WEEPING WOMEN. YOUR FAMOUS WAR HAS CAUSED A DEATH IN EVERY FAMILY IN ARYAVARTA. ARE THESE NOT GREAT AND HAPPY EVENTS?



THE PANDAVAS SAID NOTHING.

BHIMA, I HAD A HUNDRED SONS. YOU KILLED THEM ALL. YOU DID NOT SPARE EVEN ONE ...



... COULD YOU NOT HAVE LEFT JUST ONE CRUTCH FOR THIS POOR, BLIND COUPLE? JUST ONE?



MOTHER, FORGIVE ME, BUT YOU KNOW HOW MUCH YOUR SONS HAD WRONGED US.



KNOWING HE WAS RIGHT, GANDHARI TURNED AWAY FROM HIM.

WHERE IS
THE KING?



YUDHISHTHIRA CAME FORWARD,
TREMBLING.

MOTHER, IF YOU
CURSE ME NOW,
I SHALL NOT
BLAME YOU.



GANDHARI'S MIND WAS
IN TORMENT.

THE RIGHTEOUS SIDE
HAS WON AS I MYSELF
PREDICTED. MY SONS
DESERVED THEIR
FATE.



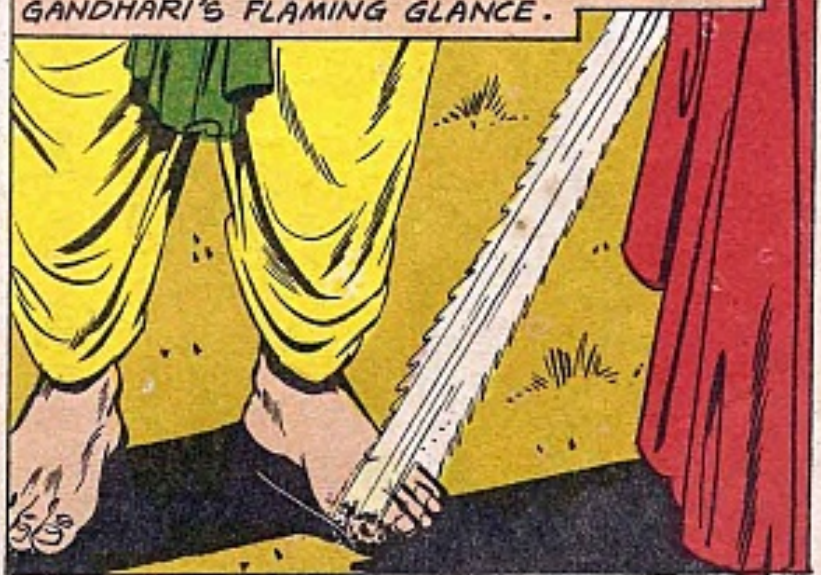
YET, I, THEIR MOTHER—
THE MOTHER NOW OF
A HUNDRED DEAD SONS
—BURN WITH GRIEF
AND RAGE. I MUST
SHAKE THIS ANGER
OFF SOMEHOW.



AS YUDHISHTHIRA BENT DOWN TO
TOUCH HER FEET, GANDHARI'S GLANCE
FELL ON HIS TOE.



YUDHISHTHIRA'S NEAT AND WELL-SHAPED
TOE-NAIL TURNED BLUE AND SORE AT
GANDHARI'S FLAMING GLANCE.



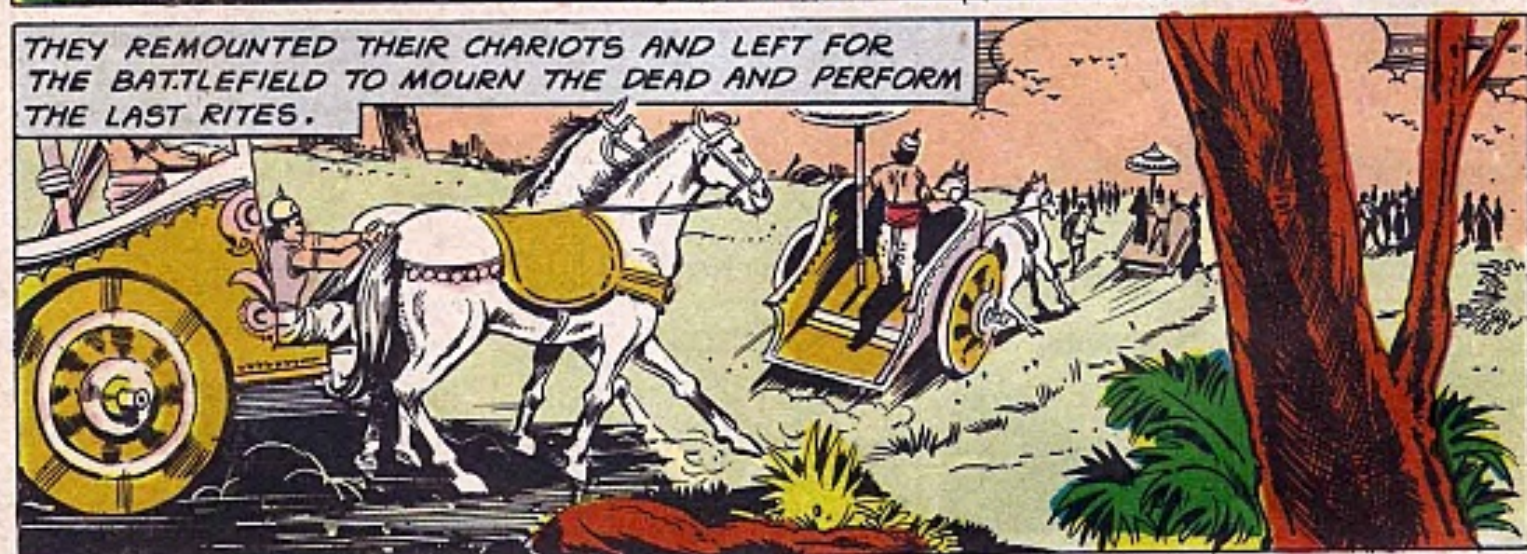
AT THIS, THE OTHERS BECAME ANXIOUSLY ALERT. BUT GANDHARI'S WRATH HAD LEFT HER NOW.

TAKE HEART, MY CHILD. YOU HAVE LOST ALL YOUR FIVE SONS, TOO. WHAT IS DONE, IS DONE.

SHE IS MAGNIFICENT. SHE CONSOLES US IN HER OWN MISERY.



THEY REMOUNTED THEIR CHARIOTS AND LEFT FOR THE BATTLEFIELD TO MOURN THE DEAD AND PERFORM THE LAST RITES.



THEY REACHED THE SCENE OF DEVASTATION. THOUGH GANDHARI HAD THE CLOTH OVER HER EYES, EVERYTHING WAS VISIBLE TO HER THROUGH HER SPIRITUAL VISION.

SEE, KRISHNA, SEE THE SIGHTS AROUND YOU. SEE THE WOMEN, WEEPING AND RUNNING ABOUT, LOOKING FOR THEIR DEAD MENFOLK...



... SEE MY DAUGHTERS-IN-LAW
WHO WERE ONCE SO BEAUTIFUL,
NOW WITH HAIR DISARRAYED,
AND IN WIDOW'S CLOTHES!



SEE THESE HEROES, LORD
JANARDANA, WHO ONCE SLEPT
ON CLEAN, WHITE BEDS,
SLEEPING NOW ON THE
HARD, BARE GROUND!



THESE DEAD KINGS WHO
USED TO HEAR POETS SING
THEIR PRAISES, NOW HEAR
THE HOWLS OF JACKALS
AND THE SHRIEKS OF
VULTURES!



OH, KRISHNA, THESE MIGHTY
HEROES WHOM BEAUTIFUL
MAIDENS USED TO FAN WITH
SOFT, SILKEN FANS, ARE NOW
FANNED BY THE ROUGH WINGS
OF BIRDS OF PREY!



THE LAMENTING GANDHARI STOPPED BEFORE A FALLEN BODY AND KNEW IT TO BE DURYODHANA'S.

OH, MY SON, MY SON!
ALAS! I, AN OLD WOMAN,
AM STILL ALIVE—WHILE
YOU, SO YOUNG AND
STRONG, ARE COLD
AND LIFELESS!



KRISHNA, WHY ARE
YOU SO SILENT?
DOESN'T THE SIGHT
OF MY HUNDRED
SLAUGHTERED SONS
MOVE YOU AT ALL?

GANDHARI, YOU
TRIED TO STOP
YOUR SON, BUT
HE DID NOT
HEED YOU.



AND YOU, KRISHNA—YOU,
WHO ARE THE LORD OF THE
UNIVERSE, WHO CAN DESTROY
OR CREATE WORLDS WITH ONE
BREATH—COULD YOU NOT
HAVE AVERTED THIS
DESTRUCTION?



BUT YOU DID NOT! YOU, WHO
HAVE THE POWER TO MAKE
PEACE, DID NOT RAISE A
FINGER TO PREVENT THIS
BLOODSHED! IT IS YOUR
INDIFFERENCE THAT HAS
CAUSED ALL THIS!



KRISHNA COULD SAY NOTHING.

I HAVE LOVED YOU WELL
BUT I CANNOT FORGIVE
YOU FOR THIS, KRISHNA.
WITH ALL THE MERIT
I HAVE EARNED, I CURSE
YOU...

...THIRTY-SIX YEARS FROM
TODAY MAY YOUR KINSMEN,
THE YADAVAS, BE DESTROYED,
AS OUR MEN HAVE BEEN NOW.
MAY YOUR WOMENFOLK WEEP,
AS WE WEEP NOW. AND MAY
YOU, KRISHNA, DIE A
WRETCHED DEATH IN
THE FOREST!

YOU BLAME ME FOR SOMETHING
THAT WAS INEVITABLE. IF YOU
HAD CONTROLLED YOUR SON,
THIS MIGHT NOT HAVE
HAPPENED. BUT I ACCEPT
YOUR CURSE, GOOD GANDHARI.

GANDHARI HAD CURSED LORD KRISHNA
HIMSELF. BUT HER CURSE WAS TO COME
TRUE YEARS LATER.

NOW GANDHARI, THE WOMAN WHO HAD SUSTAINED THE GREATEST PERSONAL LOSS IN
THE BATTLE OF KURUKSHETRA, STAGGERED TOWARDS THE RIVER GANGA TO PERFORM
THE LAST RITES FOR HER SONS.

A TPH Presentation

SCIENCE ANIMAL LIFE HUMOUR MYTHS PUZZLES



**KALIA
THE CROW**



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